--11. (New) Pulverulent mannitol according to claim 10, having a mannitol content at least equal to 96% by weight, preferably at least equal to 98% by weight.--

--12. (New) Pulverulent mannitol according to claim 10, having a rate of dissolution of between 20 and 60 seconds when dissolving 5 g of the product until perfect visual clarity, into 150 ml of deionised, degassed water maintained at 20°C and stirred at 200 rpm.--

--13. (New) Process for preparing pulverulent mannitol according to claim 10, comprising a step of granulating a mannitol powder by a wet route with the aid of a binder, and a maturing step, by drying, of the pulverulent mannitol thus obtained.--

--14. (New) Preparation process according to claim 13, wherein the granulation stage is carried out in a continuous mixer granulator.--

--15. (New) Excipient in preparation intended in particular for a pharmaceutical field, comprising pulverulent mannitol according to claim 10.--

--16. (New) Excipient for powder for filling hard capsules, comprising pulverulent mannitol according to claim 10.--

--17. (New) Excipient in preparation intended in particular for a pharmaceutical field, comprising pulverulent mannitol as produced in claim 13.--

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

10. Pulverulent mannitol having:

- an average diameter of between 60 and 200 μm, preferably of between 80 and 180 μm;
- a packed density, determined according to the method specified in the operating instructions for the HOSOKAWA P.T.N powder tester, of between 0.65 and 0.85 g/ml, preferably of between 0.7 and 0.8 g/ml;
- a flow factor of at least 60, preferably of between 60 and 90.

11. Pulverulent mannitol according to claim 10, having a mannitol content at least equal to 96% by weight, preferably at least equal to 98% by weight.

12. Pulverulent mannitol according to claim 10, having a rate of dissolution of between 20 and 60 seconds when dissolving 5 g of the product until perfect visual clarity, into 150 ml of deionised, degassed water maintained at 20°C and stirred at 200 rpm.

13. Process for preparing pulverulent mannitol according to claim 10, comprising a step of granulating a mannitol powder by a wet route with the aid of a binder, and a maturing step, by drying, of the pulverulent mannitol thus obtained.

14. Preparation process according to claim 13, wherein the granulation stage is carried out in a continuous mixer granulator.

15. Excipient in preparation intended in particular for a pharmaceutical field, comprising pulverulent mannitol according to claim 10.

16. Excipient for powder for filling hard capsules, comprising pulverulent mannitol according to claim 10.

17. Excipient in preparation intended in particular for a pharmaceutical field, comprising pulverulent mannitol as produced in claim 13.

18. Excipient for powder for filling hard capsules, comprising pulverulent mannitol as produced in claim 13.